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COWBOYS

Coaching staff confident Hitchens can be defensive leader 1B

TCU FOOTBALL

Shawn Robinson could step in at QB quite comfortably 1B

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FORT WORTH 'WHERE THE WEST BEGINS'

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17 2017

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Partly cloudy 80°/63° See 14A

Star-Telegram

PUBLIC HEALTH

State inspectors uncover the dirt on nail salons

Star-Telegram archives

In Tarrant County, more than 70 cosmetology violations generated more than $70,000 in fines during the 2017 fiscal year.

In Tarrant County, 77 salons have been fined for violations this year

BY ANNA M. TINSLEY
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FORT WORTH

A trip to a nail salon should not lead to death.

But that's what happened to Kimberly Kay Jackson, a paraplegic, in 2005 after she received a pedicure at a Fort Worth salon.

Her heel was cut with a pumice stone and she soon developed an infection. Another infection followed and eight months later she died of a heart attack that family members say was triggered by a staph infection.

Her family sued Angel Nails in Fort Worth.

"This stupid pedicure killed her," David Lee Jackson, Kimberly's ex-husband, told the Star-Telegram in 2006.

Family members claimed the salon didn't properly clean pedicure tools or the whirlpool foot bath, exposing Jackson and others "to infectious bacteria."

The lawsuit was quietly settled out of court.

But sanitation concerns still linger at nail salons across Texas.

Statewide, there have been more than 1,150 cosmetology violations this year that generated more than $1 million in fines for the state's general revenue account, records show.

Among them: the 77 violations at Tarrant County nail salons that resulted in fines of more than $70,000.

Problems cited at local salons range from foot spas not being sanitized every day to employees working without a cosme-

SEE NAIL SALONS, 2A

Safety tips

Here are some tips to help you stay safe during manicures and pedicures.

- If you have a cut or nick — or any kind of a skin infection — do not get a pedicure or manicure.
- Don't have any hair removal service 24 hours before a pedicure or manicure.
- Look around — make sure the salon is clean. And watch the people giving manicures and pedicures. Are they using clean instruments? Disposable items such as cotton balls and orangewood sticks shouldn't be re-used. Metal instruments, such as cuticle nippers and scissors, must be cleaned and disinfected between uses.
- Make sure the salon and operator are licensed. They should have a license and proof of their last inspection posted where it can easily be seen.
- If you are worried about getting a pedicure at your favorite nail salon, check their record online to see if there have been problems. You can search the state's database before going to a salon at www.tdlr.texas.gov/cimsfo/fosearch.asp
- And if you see problems at a Texas salon, file a complaint online at www.tdlr.texas.gov/complaints/

Source: Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

House tax bill passes without hearing

BY THOMAS KAPLAN AND ALAN RAPPEPORT
New York Times

WASHINGTON

With 227 Republican votes, the House passed the most sweeping tax overhaul in three decades on Thursday, taking a significant leap forward as lawmakers seek to enact $1.5 trillion in tax cuts for businesses and individuals and deliver the first major legislative achievement of President Donald Trump's tenure.

The swift approval came two weeks after the bill was unveiled, without a single hearing on the 400-plus-page legislation and over the objections of Democrats and 13 Republicans. The focus now shifts to the Senate, where Republicans are quickly moving ahead with their own tax overhaul, which differs in substantial ways from the House bill.

The Senate Finance Committee was expected to vote on the legislation Thursday evening, with the full Senate potentially voting after Thanksgiving.

The ability to enact the tax overhaul still faces significant obstacles, with several Senate Republicans expressing concerns about the effort. Senate leaders, who want to pass legislation along party lines, can afford only two defections in order to win passage through the narrowly divided chamber. In a blow to Senate leadership, an analysis of its plan released Thursday projected the bill would actually raise taxes on low-income Americans within a few years.

Republican lawmakers must also find a way to bridge the big differences between the two bills, a hurdle given the varied priorities of lawmakers in the two houses. For instance, the Senate bill makes the individual income tax cuts temporary and delays implementation of the corporate tax cut by one year. It

SEE TAXES, 11A

LOCAL & TEXAS

TV EXEC TO TAKE ON CRUZ

Christian TV executive Bruce Jacobson Jr. of North Richland Hills announces his challenge to Sen. Ted Cruz. 5A

Mother of 3-year-old Richardson girl facing endangerment charge

BY DEANNA BOYD AND RYAN OSBORNE
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RICHARDSON

On the night before a 3-year-old Richardson girl allegedly choked to death on milk, her foster parents left her alone while they ate dinner with their biological daughter at a restaurant, police said.

On Thursday, Richardson police arrested Sherin Mathews' mother, Sini Mathews, on a warrant for endangering/abandoning a child.

Her husband, Wesley Mathews, has already been charged with injury to a child after confessing to police that he hid the girl's body away in a culvert, then reported her missing.

Sini Mathews

According to a police affidavit, Sherin Mathews and her husband left Sherin at home while they went to dinner at a north Garland restaurant on the evening of Oct. 6.

Cellphone records show the couple were both at the restaurant, the affidavit said. A receipt showed only one child's meal was purchased that night and a waiter told police that only one child was present at the meal.

In an Oct. 23 interview, Wesley Mathews admitted the couple had left the 3-year-old home alone while they ate dinner.

"Wesley Mathews told detectives that Sherin Mathews was refusing to drink her milk and he grew impatient," the affidavit states.

Wesley Mathews told investigators he told his wife to come with him and their biological daughter to the restaurant

SEE MOTHER, 5A

AP

This undated photo provided by the Richardson Police Department shows 3-year-old Sherin Mathews.

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